



Security Council

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LETTER DATED 15 AUGUST 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF AZERBAIJAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT
OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

It is with great concern that I inform you that military formations of the Armenian army, in violation of the cease-fire agreement reached earlier, launched a massive attack on the night of 14/15 August 1993 against the Fizuli and Djebrail districts of Azerbaijan which border Nagorny Karabakh, capturing a total of 10 settlements. Casualties were numerous and included many elderly women and children.

As a result of the Armenian army's barbaric actions, which have not spared even the innocent civilian population, thousands of people, having left all their possessions at home, have clogged the roads of the Republic, swelling the already vast ranks of the refugees, whose number is approaching one million.

The massive attack and advance of the Armenian armed forces deep into Azerbaijan continues, posing a major threat to the lives of thousands of peaceful inhabitants of the Republic. The aggressor is not only failing to liberate previously occupied territory in Azerbaijan, but is in fact pursuing its expansion, counting on resolving the conflict solely by force.

In order to become acquainted with the situation first-hand, the head of the temporary United Nations office at Baku, Mr. Mahmoud El-Said, paid a visit to the Fizuli, Zangelan, Barda, Agdam, Tauz and Kazakh districts of Azerbaijan on 12 and 13 August. On numerous occasions during the visit the United Nations mission came under fire from Armenian positions. A building in the village of Garvend (the only village in the Agdam district under Azerbaijani control), which temporarily housed the head of the Agdam executive authorities and where Mr. El-Said was located, was subjected to rocket fire.

In the Zangelan district, Mr. El-Said was shown a foreign tank captured from the Armenian army on which a flag and serial number were depicted. In the Kazakh and Zangelan districts, where he was very near to villages captured by the Armenian armed forces, he witnessed their burning and destruction. Wherever he went, he was told about the situation of refugees.

S/26307
English
Page 2

In the town of Kazakh, the United Nations representative was shown the corpse of an Azerbaijani (civilian) who had been captured by the Armenians and had subsequently escaped and died after reaching home. In captivity he had been subjected to severe torture and brutality - the nails had been torn from his fingers and toes, and his chest bore the marks of cigarette burns. This fact was also observed by Mr. El-Said.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hassan A. HASSANOV
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
